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AUTHOR Wallin, Katherine L.; Heinrichs, Audrey S.
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ABSTRACT

Part of the "What If...Series," this booklet contains readings and activities which will help secondary students or adults learn about voting procedures and acquire effective coping skills. Specifically, the materials will provide students with a working knowledge of the rules, procedures, and requirements for voter registration. The materials are intended to be used in secondary schools and in naturalization and High School Equivalency Programs. The booklets are written at two reading levels -- Set 1 at grade 4,5 and Set 2 at grade 7,8 -- yet content activities and paging of both sets are the same. The booklet contains short reading selections followed by questions which students must answer in writing or forms which the student must fill out. Reading and writing skills are emphasized. Students who are eligible to register to vote, do so; ineligible students simulate voter registration. Students are also involved in classroom discussion. Optional activities described in the Teacher Guide (SO 012 329) include inviting a legislator and a member of the League of Women Voters to come to class to make presentations and planning and conducting a voter registration drive. Teacher training in the use of the materials can be arranged by contacting the Institute for Political and Legal Education. (Author/RM)

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WHAT IF...YOU WANT TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

--ONE OF A SERIES OF READINGS AND ACTIVITIES--
STUDENT BOOKLET - SET I

SP 012 330

Katherine L. Wallin
Audrey S. Heinrichs, Ph. D.

Institute for Political / Legal Education

Material produced by the

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WORDS TO KNOW

Your teacher can talk with you about these words to help you learn them.

deputy registrar:	1) deputy - A deputy can act for someone when that person is busy elsewhere. 2) registrar - A registrar keeps records, like lists of voters. 3) deputy registrar - A person who can keep records for the registrar, like adding your name to the list of voters.
election:	A way to make choices by voting.
fraud:	A trick, sometimes not legal.
fraudulent:	False, not honest.
municipal:	Having to do with a city or town.
municipality:	A city or town that governs itself.
official (adj.): (n):	Having to do with an office or officer. Another name for an officer.
polling:	Voting. A polling place is a place to vote.
register:	To get your name on a written record or list.
resident:	Having lived in a place for a certain length of time, like 30 days or one month.
voter registration:	The way you get on the list of voters. This booklet tells you how to get on the list.

WHAT IF...YOU WANT TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

Registration is the first step to voting. It is the legal way to get your name on the list of voters. If you want to make choices about who your leaders are, you should vote. Before you can vote, you must register.

Even if you are already registered, it is important for you to know all about it. Then you can help other people to register, too.

WHO MAY REGISTER?

Any person who is or will be:

--18 years of age by the next election

--a citizen of the United States

--a resident of New Jersey and the County for 30 days

Some people are not allowed to register or vote. A person who is an idiot, is insane or is guilty of some crimes may not vote. You may learn more about this from your municipal or county clerk.

HOW, WHEN, AND WHERE?

Who can vote is the same in all states. Voters must be 18 and a U.S. citizen. They must be a state and county resident for at least 30 days. But states can and do have different ways of registering voters.

New Jersey was one of the first states in the nation to make registering easy. You can register by mail or in person. You must register at least 29 days before voting in that election.

ACTIVITY A - Registering Yourself to Vote by Mail.

Use the left side of the form as an example. Complete the right side with information about yourself.

Step 1 - Print your name: remember to put your last name first.

Step 2 - Print your street address. Add your apartment number, if you have one. Print the name of your city and county. Write your zip code.

Step 3 - Give a post box number or route number, if you have one.

Step 4 - Check the correct box. Is this registration new? Or are you completing it because you changed your address or name?

Step 5 - Place your birth date in the box.

Step 6 - Complete this step only if you have registered to vote in New Jersey before.

Step 7 - Check if you are native born or a naturalized citizen.

A native born citizen has at least one parent who is a United States citizen. A naturalized citizen has become a U.S. citizen by court action.

Step 8 - Sign your name on the line. The words above the line explain that the facts you gave in the form are true. If you knowingly give false information you could be fined and/or jailed.

Step 9 - Have a New Jersey registered voter watch you sign on the line in Step 8. Then, that person will complete Step 9. The person will give his/her county, then sign his/her name and the date. Next, the person will print his/her address.

REGISTRATION BY MAIL

Suppose you want to register by mail or help a friend to register by mail. Call the county court house or municipal building. Ask that a registration-by-mail form be sent to you. It will be like the form on the next page. You will be required to complete both sides. You may ask for the form in Spanish if you prefer.

IMPORTANT: INSTRUCTIONS

Please read carefully before completing form

1. Items 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9 must be completed in full on both forms. Please read carefully before completing both forms. Complete item 3 only if applicable, and item 6 if you were previously registered.

NOTE: If applicant is unable to sign his or her name a mark must be affixed to the line designated "Signature or Mark" in item 8 on both forms.

2. Item 8 must be signed by the registrant after completing the form.
3. Item 9 must be signed by a registered voter of the State of New Jersey, after witnessing the registrant's signature and completion of the form.
4. COMPLETE EVERY APPLICABLE ITEM ON BOTH FORMS.
5. The Commisioner of Registration will notify you upon receipt and review of this form.

Qualifications of an eligible registrant

By the time of the next general election:

- You will be at least 18 years of age.
- A citizen of the United States.
- Will have resided in New Jersey and in the county in which you are registering 30 days.

DETACH INSTRUCTION PANEL ALONG DOTTED LINE BEFORE MAILING FORM

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT IN INK OR TYPE

1 Name of the registrant (Please Print):
Lopez (LAST) Anna (FIRST) MARIA (MIDDLE)

2 Residence of the registrant:
723 N. 3rd Street (STREET ADDRESS) 6 (APARTMENT NUMBER)
Camden (MUNICIPALITY) Camden (COUNTY) 08110 (ZIP)

3 Rural Mailing Address (if any):
(R.D. NUMBER) (BOX) (MUNICIPALITY) (ZIP)

4 This form is being used as (Check One):
☐ New Registration ☒ Change of Address ☐ Change of Name

5 Birth Date:
8 (MONTH) 11 (DAY) 54 (YEAR)

6 From what address did you last register to vote, and under what name?
Lopez (LAST NAME) Anna (FIRST) Maria (MIDDLE)
1234 S. Turner Street (STREET ADDRESS) (APARTMENT NUMBER)
Atlantic City (MUNICIPALITY) Atlantic (COUNTY) N.J. (STATE) 08412 (ZIP)

7 I am a ☒ native born ☐ naturalized citizen (Check One).
I was naturalized:
(MONTH) (DAY) (YEAR) (MUNICIPALITY) (STATE)

8 By the time of the next general election, I will be at least 18 years of age, I will be a citizen of the United States, and I will have resided in this State at least 30 days and in the county of Camden at least 30 days. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct. I understand that any false or fraudulent registration or attempted registration may subject me to a fine of up to $1,000.00 or imprisonment of up to 5 years, or both pursuant to R.S. 19:34-1.

Anna Maria Lopez (SIGNATURE OR MARK OF THE REGISTRANT) 1/15/78 (DATE OF SIGNATURE)

9 I, being a registered voter in Camden county in the State of New Jersey, witnessed the making of the above signature or mark.

John L Smith (SIGNATURE OF THE WITNESS) 1/15/78 (DATE OF WITNESSING)

John L. Smith (NAME OF THE WITNESS (Please Print):)

2724 Lake St. (STREET ADDRESS OF THE WITNESS) Camden (MUNICIPALITY) Camden (COUNTY) 08110 (ZIP)

-3-

8

FOLD ALONG THIS LINE BEFORE SEALING

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT IN INK OR TYPE

1 Name of the registrant (Please Print):
(LAST) (FIRST) (MIDDLE)

2 Residence of the registrant:
(STREET ADDRESS) (APARTMENT NUMBER)
(MUNICIPALITY) (COUNTY) (ZIP)

3 Rural Mailing Address (if any):
(R.D. NUMBER) (BOX) (MUNICIPALITY) (ZIP)

4 This form is being used as (Check One):
☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Name

5 Birth Date:
(MONTH) (DAY) (YEAR)

6 From what address did you last register to vote, and under what name?
(LAST NAME) (FIRST) (MIDDLE)
(STREET ADDRESS) (APARTMENT NUMBER)
(MUNICIPALITY) (COUNTY) (STATE) (ZIP)

7 I am a ☐ native born ☐ naturalized citizen (Check One).
I was naturalized:
(MONTH) (DAY) (YEAR) (MUNICIPALITY) (STATE)

8 By the time of the next general election, I will be at least 18 years of age, I will be a citizen of the United States, and I will have resided in this State at least 30 days and in the county of _____ at least 30 days. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct. I understand that any false or fraudulent registration or attempted registration may subject me to a fine of up to $1,000.00 or imprisonment of up to 5 years, or both pursuant to R.S. 19:34-1.

(SIGNATURE OR MARK OF THE REGISTRANT) (DATE OF SIGNATURE)

9 I, being a registered voter in _____ county in the State of New Jersey, witnessed the making of the above signature or mark.

(SIGNATURE OF THE WITNESS) (DATE OF WITNESSING)

NAME OF THE WITNESS (Please Print):

(STREET ADDRESS OF THE WITNESS) (MUNICIPALITY) (COUNTY) (ZIP)

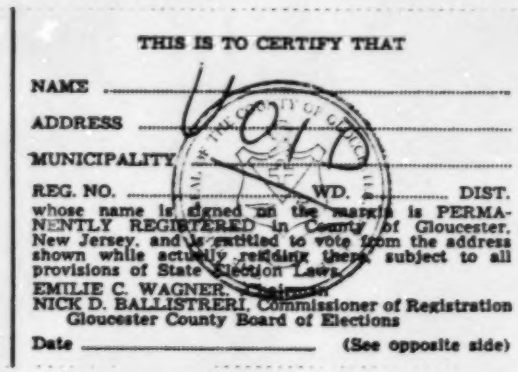
9

VOTER REGISTRATION CARD

After you have done all nine steps on both sides of the registration form, mail it. A card like the one shown below will be sent to you. The front side of the card tells people that you are a registered voter. The back side of the card also gives important information.

ACTIVITY B Understanding a Voter Registration Card

1. Sign your name on the signature line.



1. SIGNATURE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

MUNICIPALITY .....

REG. NO. ..... WD. ..... DIST.

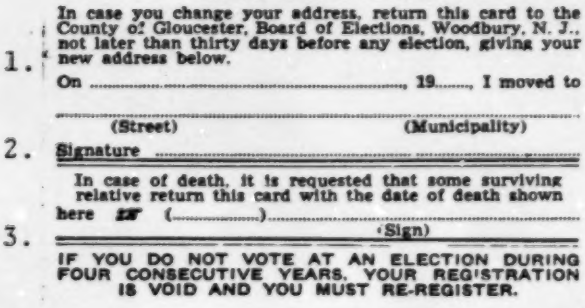
whose name is signed on the margin is PERMANENTLY REGISTERED in County of Gloucester, New Jersey, and is entitled to vote from the address shown while actually residing there, subject to all provisions of State Election Laws.

EMILIE C. WAGNER, Chairman
NICK D. BALLISTRERI, Commissioner of Registration
Gloucester County Board of Elections

Date _____ (See opposite side)

1. If you move inside the county, you can change your registration by writing in this section.

2. This part requests (asks) that something be done when the owner of the card dies. Use your dictionary to look up "surviving" and "relative". What does this part tell you?



IMPORTANT

1. In case you change your address, return this card to the County of Gloucester, Board of Elections, Woodbury, N. J., not later than thirty days before any election, giving your new address below.

On ....., 19....., I moved to

..... (Street) ..... (Municipality)

2. Signature .....

In case of death, it is requested that some surviving relative return this card with the date of death shown here (.....)

3. ..... (Sign)

IF YOU DO NOT VOTE AT AN ELECTION DURING FOUR CONSECUTIVE YEARS, YOUR REGISTRATION IS VOID AND YOU MUST RE-REGISTER.

3. This part tells about registering again (re-registering). You will need to re-register if you have not voted in four years. By voting in elections, you keep your registration up to date.

ACTIVITY C Registering Another Person to Vote

Remember what you learned in ACTIVITY A. You filled in the registration form with facts about yourself. Now, turn to another student. Ask for the same facts - Step 1 through Step 7. Write the answers on both sides of the form. Next have the student sign and date the form in Step 8. Then, complete Step 9 with your name, address and the date. This means that you have watched the other person sign his/her name.

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT IN INK OR TYPE

1 Name of the registrant (Please Print):

LAST FIRST MIDDLE

2 Residence of the registrant:

STREET ADDRESS APARTMENT NUMBER

MUNICIPALITY COUNTY ZIP

3 Rural Mailing Address (if any):

R.D. NUMBER BOX MUNICIPALITY ZIP

4 This form is being used as (Check One):

☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Name

5 Birth Date:

MONTH DAY YEAR

6 From what address did you last register to vote, and under what name?

LAST NAME FIRST MIDDLE

STREET ADDRESS APARTMENT NUMBER

MUNICIPALITY COUNTY STATE ZIP

7 I am a ☐ native born ☐ naturalized citizen (Check One).

I was naturalized:

MONTH DAY YEAR MUNICIPALITY STATE

8 By the time of the next general election, I will be at least 18 years of age, I will be a citizen of the United States, and I will have resided in this State at least 30 days and in the county of _____ at least 30 days. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct. I understand that any false or fraudulent registration or attempted registration may subject me to a fine of up to $1,000.00 or imprisonment of up to 5 years, or both pursuant to R.S. 19:34-1.

SIGNATURE OR MARK OF THE REGISTRANT DATE OF SIGNATURE

9 I, being a registered voter in _____ county in the State of New Jersey, witnessed the making of the above signature or mark.

SIGNATURE OF THE WITNESS DATE OF WITNESSING

NAME OF THE WITNESS (Please Print):

STREET ADDRESS OF THE WITNESS MUNICIPALITY COUNTY ZIP

REGISTRATION IN PERSON

You may want to register in person rather than by mail. To do this you can go to the:

-- municipal (city) building

-- county court house

-- voter registration units that move around. Sometimes you will see one in a shopping mall. Sometimes there will be one at a school, where you can go to register.

At these places a voting officer will ask you questions. He or she will write your answers on the registration form. Then you will be asked to sign the form.

RE-REGISTRATION

In New Jersey you need to re-register only if you:

--fail to vote in any election during a four year period

--change your name

(<u>But</u> if you change your name within 28 days of an election, you may still vote. You will be asked to sign both your old and new names).

--move to a new address in another county

(If you move within 28 days of an election, you may vote at your old polling place)

You do not have to re-register if you move <u>within</u> the same county. You do have to let officials know. You can use the back of your voter registration card (see p.4) or you can write a letter. Send it to the County Board of Elections.

ACTIVITY D Who Can Register? Who Needs to Re-register

Study the examples below. All of these people are citizens. All are over 18 years of age except where the example says that they are younger. Should the person register? Should he/she re-register? check one box for each.

	Eligible to register		Must re-register	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
1. Jane Poe is a registered voter. She marries John Jones. They decide to live at her house, so her address doesn't change.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. Pete Smith moved from Cape May County to Camden County six months ago.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. Bob Green has lived in the U.S. four years, but he is not a citizen.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. Jesus Rivera is a native born American. He speaks a little English, but he reads only Spanish.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. Rob Holt is a naturalized, 30 year old, U.S. citizen. He has lived in Vineland over a year.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. Phil Black is in prison for election fraud.	☐	☐	☐	☐
7. Vic Tate has not voted since 1969.	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. Sue Lang is insane.	☐	☐	☐	☐
9. Bett Smith is 16 years old and is a U.S. citizen.	☐	☐	☐	☐
10. Kay Martin is blind and disabled.	☐	☐	☐	☐

WHY SHOULD YOU REGISTER?

Why should a person register to vote 30 days before an election? Why can't you just go to the polls on Election Day and vote?

Many people are asking these questions. About one-half of the adults in the U. S. vote. People wonder why the number is so small.

Some people believe that the act of registering to vote is too hard. Citizens don't vote because they don't register. Registration takes time and work. People should be able to vote without registering. Then they would get out on Election Day. More people would vote.

Other people believe that voter registration is needed. It stops people from voting in more than one place in one election. Each person should have only one vote. Registration makes sure people only vote once.

ACTIVITY E Should New Jersey Voters Be Able to Register on Election Day?

This would mean that you could register and then vote right away. Would that be good? Why or why not? Write your answer.

Talk with other people in your class about it. What do they think?

IMPORTANT INFORMATION I NEED TO KEEP

1. List 2 ways a citizen can register to vote in New Jersey:

_____

_____

2. List who may register to vote:

_____

_____

_____

3. Give the reasons why a person must re-register:

_____

_____

_____

4. Write the name, address and phone number of the clerk at your local:

County Court House _____

_____

_____

Municipal Building _____

_____

_____

5. Write the address and phone number of your County League of Women Voters Office. This group helps people with registration and voting problems.

_____

_____

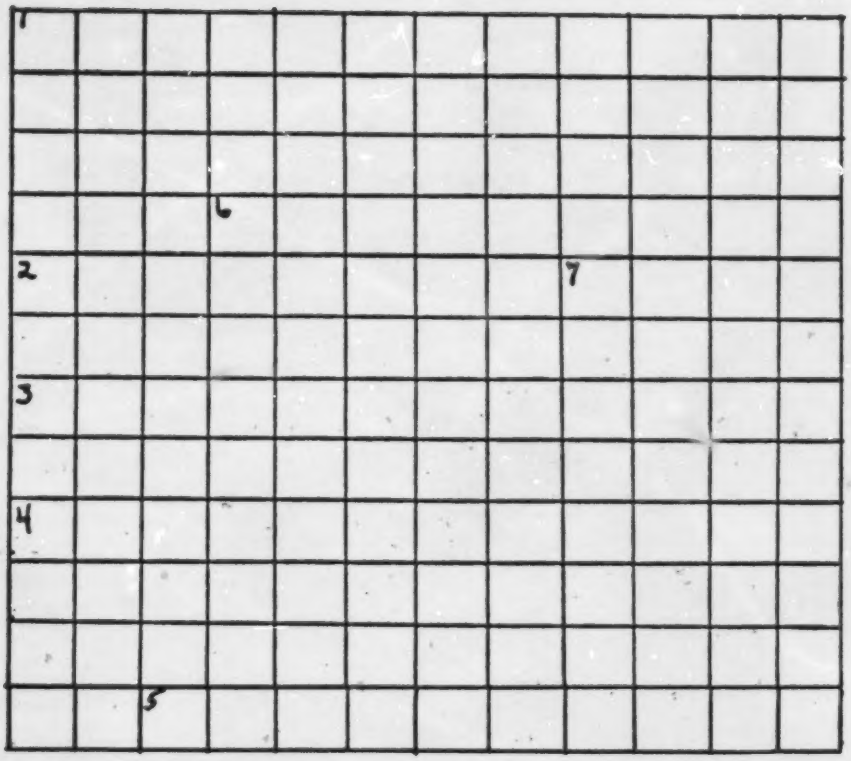
_____

WHAT WILL I DO NOW?

	Yes	No
1. I will register to vote.	☐	☐
2. I will help a friend to become a registered voter.	☐	☐
3. I will work with my teacher and other students to plan and conduct a voter registration drive.	☐	☐

WORDS TO USE

Complete the crossword puzzle with the words below.



Across:

2. A person who acts for someone else.
3. The first step to becoming a voter.
4. One who records an official.
5. A way to decide, to make choices.

Down:

1. Trickery; misleading.
6. Having to do with a city.
7. To be a _____, you must register.

deputy
election
fraud
municipal
registrar
registration
voter

POLITICAL AND LEGAL COPING SKILLS
CITIZEN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

WHAT IF...YOU WANT TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

--ONE OF A SERIES OF READINGS AND ACTIVITIES--
STUDENT BOOKLET - SET II

Katherine L. Wallin
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Institute for Political / Legal Education

WORDS TO KNOW

deputy registrar: an aide to an official recorder.

The deputy registrar works for the county clerk.

election: the act of selecting by vote.

In an election, voters choose new leaders.

fraud: trickery; an act that is intended to mislead; deceit.

A person who gives false information to the deputy registrar could be convicted of fraud.

fraudulent: based on fraud.

A fraudulent act is intended to deceive.

municipal (adj.): having to do with a city.

City business is carried on in the municipal building.

municipality (n): A town or city having self government.

Camden is a municipality.

register (n): to make a written record, to make an official list, as of voters.

In this book you will learn how to register yourself and other voters.

registration: the act of getting one's name on an official list.

Voter registration is the first step to voting.

residence: the fact of living in a place.

Your residence is your home.

residency: the official place of residence.

You may be a voter in the place where you have residency.

WHAT IF ... YOU WANT TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

Registration is the first step to voting. It is the legal procedure by which your name is placed on the official voter list. You must register if you want to exercise your right and responsibility as a citizen to vote.

Even if you are already registered, it is important for you to know how, when, and where to register so you can help other people to register.

WHO MAY REGISTER?

Any person who is or will be:

-- 18 years of age by the next election

-- a citizen of the United States

-- a resident of New Jersey and the County for 30 days

A person who is found to be insane, an idiot or guilty of certain crimes may be prohibited from registering to vote. Information on these exclusions is provided by the municipal or county clerk.

HOW, WHEN, AND WHERE ...

Your right to vote is provided for and protected by the U. S. Constitution. The requirements of age, citizenship and residency are standard. But states may have different voter registration procedures. New Jersey was one of the first states in the nation to make the process easier and faster. It provides several options including registration by mail and registration in person. To vote in a specific election you must be registered at least 29 days before that election.

ACTIVITY A - Registering Yourself to Vote by Mail

Use the left side of the form as an example. Complete the right side with information about yourself. But first look at the "important instructions" on the form. Read the special notes below for selected steps:

Step 1 - Print your last name first.

Step 2 - Give a street name and number when possible.

Step 6 - Complete only if you have registered to vote in New Jersey before.

Step 7 - Check whether or not you are "native born" or a "naturalized citizen."

A native born citizen has at least one parent who is a United States citizen. A naturalized citizen has gone through a legal procedure to become a U.S. citizen.

Step 8 - Sign your name. Your signature means that you do now or will meet the requirements of age, citizenship and residency by the next election. It also means that you understand that your statements must be true. If you knowingly give false information and are convicted, you could be fined up to $1,000 and/or sentenced up to 5 years in prison.

Step 9 - Have a New Jersey registered voter witness your signing of the registration by mail form. This must be done to have your registration legal.

REGISTRATION BY MAIL

Suppose you want to register by mail or assist a friend to register by mail. Call the county court house or municipal building and ask that a registration by mail form be mailed to you. It will be like the form shown. You will be required to complete both sides. You may ask for the form in Spanish if you prefer.

IMPORTANT: INSTRUCTIONS

Please read carefully before completing form

1. Items 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9 must be completed in full on both forms. Please read carefully before completing both forms. Complete item 3 only if applicable, and item 6 if you were previously registered.

NOTE: If applicant is unable to sign his or her name a mark must be affixed to the line designated "Signature or Mark" in item 8 on both forms.

2. Item 8 must be signed by the registrant after completing the form.
3. Item 9 must be signed by a registered voter of the State of New Jersey, after witnessing the registrant's signature and completion of the form.
4. COMPLETE EVERY APPLICABLE ITEM ON BOTH FORMS.
5. The Commissioner of Registration will notify you upon receipt and review of this form.

Qualifications of an eligible registrant

By the time of the next general election:

- You will be at least 18 years of age.
- A citizen of the United States.
- Will have resided in New Jersey and in the county in which you are registering 30 days.

DETACH INSTRUCTION PANEL ALONG DOTTED LINE BEFORE MAILING FORM

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT IN INK OR TYPE

1 Name of the registrant (Please Print):
Lopez (LAST) | Anna (FIRST) | Maria (MIDDLE)

2 Residence of the registrant:
783 N. 3rd Street (STREET ADDRESS) | 6 (APARTMENT NUMBER)
Camden (MUNICIPALITY) | Camden (COUNTY) | 08110 (ZIP)

3 Rural Mailing Address (if any):
R.D. NUMBER | BOX | MUNICIPALITY | ZIP

4 This form is being used as (Check One):
☐ New Registration ☑ Change of Address ☐ Change of Name

5 Birth Date:
8 (MONTH) | 11 (DAY) | 54 (YEAR)

6 From what address did you last register to vote, and under what name?
Lopez (LAST NAME) | Anna (FIRST) | Maria (MIDDLE)
1234 S. Turner Street (STREET ADDRESS) | (APARTMENT NUMBER)
Atlantic City (MUNICIPALITY) | Atlantic (COUNTY) | N.J. (STATE) | 08412 (ZIP)

7 I am a ☑ native born ☐ naturalized citizen (Check One).
I was naturalized:
MONTH | DAY | YEAR | MUNICIPALITY | STATE

8 By the time of the next general election, I will be at least 18 years of age, I will be a citizen of the United States, and I will have resided in this State at least 30 days and in the county of Camden at least 30 days. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct. I understand that any false or fraudulent registration or attempted registration may subject me to a fine of up to $1,000.00 or imprisonment of up to 5 years, or both pursuant to R.S. 19:34-1.
Anna Maria Lopez (SIGNATURE OR MARK OF THE REGISTRANT) | 1/15/78 (DATE OF SIGNATURE)

9 I, being a registered voter in Camden county in the State of New Jersey, witnessed the making of the above signature or mark.
John L Smith (SIGNATURE OF THE WITNESS) | 1/15/78 (DATE OF WITNESSING)
John L. Smith (NAME OF THE WITNESS (Please Print):)
2724 Lake St. (STREET ADDRESS OF THE WITNESS) | Camden (MUNICIPALITY) | Camden (COUNTY) | 08110 (ZIP)

FOLD ALONG THIS LINE BEFORE SEALING

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT IN INK OR TYPE

1 Name of the registrant (Please Print):
LAST | FIRST | MIDDLE

2 Residence of the registrant:
STREET ADDRESS | APARTMENT NUMBER
MUNICIPALITY | COUNTY | ZIP

3 Rural Mailing Address (if any):
R.D. NUMBER | BOX | MUNICIPALITY | ZIP

4 This form is being used as (Check One):
☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Name

5 Birth Date:
MONTH | DAY | YEAR

6 From what address did you last register to vote, and under what name?
LAST NAME | FIRST | MIDDLE
STREET ADDRESS | APARTMENT NUMBER
MUNICIPALITY | COUNTY | STATE | ZIP

7 I am a ☐ native born ☐ naturalized citizen (Check One).
I was naturalized:
MONTH | DAY | YEAR | MUNICIPALITY | STATE

8 By the time of the next general election, I will be at least 18 years of age, I will be a citizen of the United States, and I will have resided in this State at least 30 days and in the county of _____ at least 30 days. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct. I understand that any false or fraudulent registration or attempted registration may subject me to a fine of up to $1,000.00 or imprisonment of up to 5 years, or both pursuant to R.S. 19:34-1.
SIGNATURE OR MARK OF THE REGISTRANT | DATE OF SIGNATURE

9 I, being a registered voter in _____ county in the State of New Jersey, witnessed the making of the above signature or mark.
SIGNATURE OF THE WITNESS | DATE OF WITNESSING
NAME OF THE WITNESS (Please Print):
STREET ADDRESS OF THE WITNESS | MUNICIPALITY | COUNTY | ZIP

VOTER REGISTRATION CARD

A card like the one shown below will be sent to you after you have completed all nine steps on both sides of the reigstration by mail form, and have mailed it. The front side of the card gives official notification of your voter registration. The back side of the card has important information. Be sure to read it.

Activity B Understanding a Voter Registration Card

1. Sign your name on the signature line.

1. If you move within the county, you can change your registration by completing this section.

2. Why do you think this would be important? Write your response.

_____

_____

_____

3. What must you do if you have not voted in an election in a four-year period? Write your response.

_____

_____

1.

SIGNATURE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

..... 1

ADDRESS 010

MUNICIPALITY .....

REG. NO. ..... WD ..... DIST.

whose name is signed on the margin is PERMANENTLY REGISTERED in County of Gloucester, New Jersey, and is entitled to vote from the address shown while actually residing there, subject to all provisions of State Election Laws.

EMILIE C. WAGNER, Chairman
NICK D. BALLISTRERI, Commissioner of Registration
Gloucester County Board of Elections

Date ..... (See opposite side)

IMPORTANT

In case you change your address, return this card to the County of Gloucester, Board of Elections, Woodbury, N. J., not later than thirty days before any election, giving your new address below.

1. On ..... 19..... I moved to

..... (Street) ..... (Municipality)

2. Signature .....

In case of death, it is requested that some surviving relative return this card with the date of death shown here as (.....)

3. .....
(Sign)

IF YOU DO NOT VOTE AT AN ELECTION DURING FOUR CONSECUTIVE YEARS, YOUR REGISTRATION IS VOID AND YOU MUST RE-REGISTER.

ACTIVITY C Registering Another Person to Vote

Remember what you learned in ACTIVITY A. You filled in the registration form with facts about yourself. Now, turn to a student. Ask for the same facts - Step 1 through Step 7. Write the answers on both sides of the form. Next have the student sign and date the form in Step 8. Then, complete Step 9 with <u>your</u> name, address and the date. This means that you have watched the other person sign his/her name.

VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT IN INK OR TYPE

1 Name of the registrant (Please Print)

LAST FIRST MIDDLE

2 Residence of the registrant

STREET ADDRESS APARTMENT NUMBER

MUNICIPALITY COUNTY ZIP

3 Rural Mailing Address (if any)

R D NUMBER BOX MUNICIPALITY ZIP

4 This form is being used as (Check One)

☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Name

5 Birth Date

MONTH DAY YEAR

6 From what address did you last register to vote, and under what name?

LAST NAME FIRST MIDDLE

STREET ADDRESS APARTMENT NUMBER

MUNICIPALITY COUNTY STATE ZIP

7 I am a ☐ native born ☐ naturalized citizen (Check One)

I was naturalized

MONTH DAY YEAR MUNICIPALITY STATE

8 By the time of the next general election, I will be at least 18 years of age, I will be a citizen of the United States, and I will have resided in this State at least 30 days and in the county of _____ at least 30 days. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct. I understand that any false or fraudulent registration or attempted registration may subject me to a fine of up to $1,000.00 or imprisonment of up to 5 years, or both pursuant to R.S. 19:34-1.

SIGNATURE OR MARK OF THE REGISTRANT DATE OF SIGNATURE

9 I, being a registered voter in _____ county in the State of New Jersey, witnessed the making of the above signature or mark.

SIGNATURE OF THE WITNESS DATE OF WITNESSING

NAME OF THE WITNESS (Please Print)

STREET ADDRESS OF THE WITNESS MUNICIPALITY COUNTY ZIP

REGISTRATION IN PERSON

If you want to register in person rather than by mail, you can go to:

- municipal building or county court house
- mobile registration units at pre-announced sites such as shopping malls, community centers, schools.

At these locations a deputy voter registrar will ask you questions and place the information on the form. Then you will be asked to sign the completed form.

RE-REGISTRATION

In New Jersey you need to re-register only if you:

- fail to vote in any election during a four year period
- change your name

  (But if you change your name within 28 days of an election, you may still vote. You will be asked to sign both your old and new names).

- move to a new address in another county

  (If you move within 28 days of an election, you may vote at your old polling place)

You do not have to re-register if you move within the same county. You do have to let officials know. You can use the back of your voter registration card (see p.4) or you can write a letter. Send it to the County Board of Elections.

ACTIVITY D Who can Register? Who Needs to Re-register?

Determine in each of the situations below whether or not the individual: (a) is eligible to register (b) must re-register. (Unless otherwise indicated, assume that the person is a citizen, and over 18.)

	Eligible to register		Must re-register	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
(1) Ellen Roberts, a registered voter marries John Jones and continues to live at her old address.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(2) Peter Gonzales moved from Atlantic County to Camden County six months ago.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(3) Bruno Helder is an elderly German who immigrated to the U.S. 2 years ago.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(4) Mary Smith is 16 years old and a U.S. citizen.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(5) Pancho Rivera is a naturalized, 30-year old U.S. citizen who has lived in Vineland over a year.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(6) Ira Blackman is in prison for election fraud.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(7) Victor Tate has been working in Spain since 1969 and has not voted.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(8) Marjorie Little has been found insane.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(9) Kay Martin is blind and disabled.	☐	☐	☐	☐
(10) Manuel Dias, although a native born American, speaks little English and reads only Spanish.	☐	☐	☐	☐

IS VOTER REGISTRATION NECESSARY?

Why is it necessary to register to vote 30 days before an election? Why can't a person just go to the polls on Election Day and vote?

Such questions are being asked across the country. Many people are concerned because only one-half of the eligible citizens register to vote. These people believe that the registration process could be made easier. In fact, they believe that there were no registration, more people would vote.

Other people believe that voter registration is needed to prevent fraud. They argue that, without it, some citizens might vote more than once.

ACTIVITY E Should New Jersey Voters Be Able to Register on Election Day?

What do you think? Should New Jersey have registration on the same day as election day? Why or why not? Write your response. Discuss it with other people in your class.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION I NEED TO KEEP

1. List 2 ways a citizen can register to vote in New Jersey:

_____

_____

2. List 3 major requirements for a person to register:

_____

_____

_____

3. List the circumstances when a person must re-register:

_____

_____

_____

4. Write the name, address and phone number of the clerk at your local:

County Court House _____

_____

_____

Municipal Building _____

_____

_____

5. Write the address and phone number of your County League of Women Voters Office. This community organization helps people with problems of voter registration and voting.

_____

_____

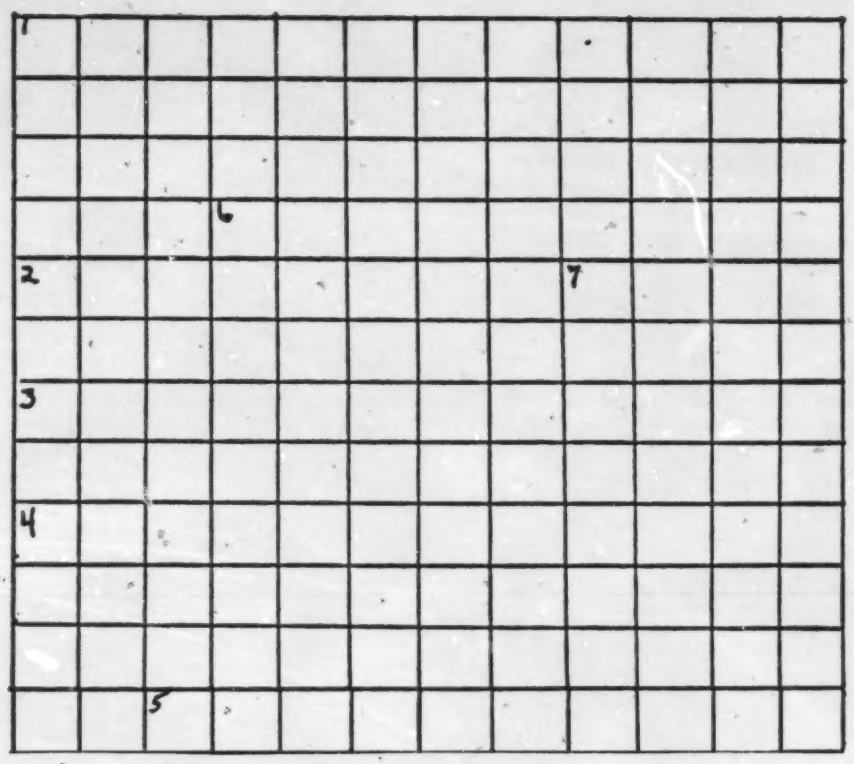
_____

WHAT WILL I DO NOW?

	Yes	No
1. I will register to vote	☐	☐
2. I will help a friend to become a registered voter.	☐	☐
3. I will work with my teacher and classmates to plan and conduct a voter registration drive.	☐	☐

WORDS TO USE

Complete the crossword puzzle below with words from the glossary.



Across:

2. A person who acts as an assistant.
3. The first step to becoming a voter.
4. An official, one who records.
5. A way to decide, to make choices.

Down:

1. Trickery; misleading.
6. Having to do with a city.
7. To be a _____, you must register.